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1. (twice amended) A composition comprising a population of oligodeoxynucleotide-containing lipid vesicles in an aqueous carrier, at least a portion of the lipid vesicles within said population being small multilamellar vesicles, wherein the small multilamellar vesicles comprise:
(a) a lipid component comprising 20-30 mol % of an ionizable amino lipid, a steric barrier lipid and additional lipid components selected from among neutral lipids and sterols; and
(b) oligodeoxynucleotides contained in the lumen or interlamellar spaces of the small multilamellar vesicles, wherein the ionizable lipid is selected such that the small multilamellar vesicles are substantially neutral at physiological pH.

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